(c) what was the outcome of the discusions and what follow-up action has been taken by the two countries to help resolve the issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Both Jordan and India viewed with concern the continuing Palestinian problem and the Iran-Iraq war. India and Jordan endorse the proposal for a UN sponsored international conference to negotiate a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem. They also support the implementation of UNSCR 598 as a means to end the Iran-Iraq war. The two Governments remain in contact with a view to promoting settlements of these issues.

Prime Minister's visit to Yugoslavia

1195. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Prime Minister's recent visit to Yugoslavia both the countries gave a call to restore the primacy of the United Nations and to reorientate and to attune Non-Aliged Movement to changing situations;

(b) if so, what precise modifications in the role and actibn programme of the NAM were contemplated to attune it to what was called "changing situations" and

(c) what steps have been and are being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Discussions are under way to strengthen and to re-orient the NAM in an attempt to amake it more purposeful and relevant in the context of the rapidly changing international scenario. An exercise is being undertaken on how to make the Action Programme short, concise and concrete.

To this end, intensive consultations are being undertaken with other NAM countries.

Prime Minsiter's recent visit to Syria

1196. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to Syria, the Prime Minister and his team discussed with Syrian counterparts the question of implementation of the Geneva Accord in the context of interference by Pakistan by way of arming and training Mujahidians for engineering insurgency in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, what was the stand of Syrian authorities in this regard; and

(c) what agreement, if any, was reached between India and Syria for ensuring proper implementation of the Afghan accord (Geneva Accord) and establishing peace and stability in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K K. TEWARY): (a) Yes Sir. During Prime Minister's visit to Syria the situation in Afghanistan was among the international issues on which there was an exchange of views.

(b) and (c) Syria shares India's view that only scrupulous implementation of the Geneva Accord can restore peace and normalcy in Afghanistan. Syria and India have agreed to remain in touch with a view to securing this objective.

Proposal for Upper Bhadra Project

1197. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:
SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Karnataka Government for 'Upper Bhadra Project'; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Erosion in Ganga at Farakka

1198. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any letter from Members of Parliament in the month of May, 1988 regarding erosion of the river Ganga at Farakka; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The letter sought to indicate that river bank erosion on the right bank downstream of Farakka Barrage is taking place and made a request to implement the recommendations of the anti-erosion Committee.

Commission paid by Bofors in the Howitzer Guns

1199. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the department has come across the reports in 'Hindu' Published during the last three months with regard to Bofors Howitzer guns and commission paid to 3 foreign based companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that MOINEAO S. A. is linked with Hindujas; whether MOINEAO S. A. received Rs. 10 crores for the Howitzer contract as Commission or winding up cost;

(c) whether it is confirmed that Bofors paid 5.75 per cent commission to Svenska Ltd. and whether such a high commission amounts to bribe;

(d) whether Shri Win Chadda is connected with any of the three companies that were paid commissions and if so what are the details of Win Chadda's connection whether any move has been made to investigate Bofors-Hinduja connection; and

(e) whether Government officers sent abroad to investigate into Bofors scandal has brought any evidence or material pertaining to the scandal; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C PANT): (a) to (e) The Government has seen the material published in the 'Hindu' during April, 1988 to June, 1988, purporting to relate to agreements concluded by M/s Bofors with certain foreign and Indian firms and the alleged payments made by them to these firms. Necessary in-